

WORKFORCE OBSERVATIONS*

FOR FOX VALLEY WISCONSIN COUNTIES

October 2003



State of Wisconsin
Department of Workforce Development

Fox Valley Area Unadjusted Unemployment Dips to 4.5 Percent in September

The Fox Valley Workforce Delivery Area's seasonally unadjusted unemployment rate dropped 0.5 of a percentage point to 4.5 percent during September. All of the counties within the region had decreases in their monthly unemployment rate. Appleton/Oshkosh/Neenah MSA and Fond du Lac County had the lowest rates in the region at 4.4 percent, while Waushara County had the highest rate at 5.1 percent. Green Lake had the largest decline in its rate dropping 0.9 of a percentage point over the month to 4.5 percent.

The unemployment rate in the region typically declines in September as different seasonal dynamics begin to effect the region's economy. The drop in the rate this year was slightly more than the average monthly August to September decline experienced over the last twelve years, with the exception of Waushara County where the drop in the rate was smaller than the average. The causes behind the larger than normal drop are complex as September is somewhat of a transition month between summer and fall labor force and employment growth.

Most years employment declines during September, while the labor force increases. However this year saw a slightly smaller than average decline in the number of workers employed, and a decrease in the labor force.

Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Labor Force Estimates (Seasonally Adjusted)			
	Appleton-Oshkosh-Neenah MSA	Wisconsin	United States (000s)
September-2003			
Civilian Labor Force	238,800	3,104,900	146,545
Employment	226,600	2,927,600	137,573
Unemployment	12,200	177,300	8,973
Unemployment rate	5.1%	5.7%	6.1%
August-2003 Change			
Civilian Labor Force	(700)	1,600	15
Employment	200	6,800	(52)
Unemployment	(900)	(5,200)	68
Unemployment rate	-0.4%	-0.2%	0.0%
September-2002 Change			
Civilian Labor Force	5,500	84,600	911
Employment	5,400	72,600	261
Unemployment	100	12,000	652
Unemployment rate	-0.1%	0.2%	0.4%

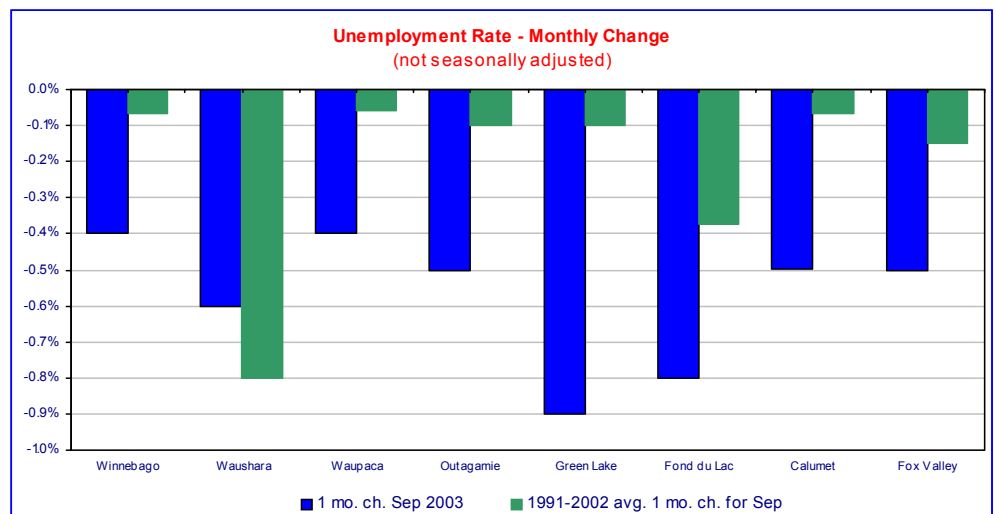
Note: All estimates are round and preliminary, based on place of residence.

The seasonally adjusted rate for the Appleton-Oshkosh-Neenah MSA declined 0.4 of a percentage point to 5.1 percent during September. The rate was 0.1 of a percentage point below last September.

All eleven of the state's MSA's had a decline in their seasonally adjusted rates. Rates for some of the other MSA's around the state were: Green

Bay, 4.9 percent; Sheboygan, 4.7 percent; Milwaukee, 6.2 percent and Madison, 3.0 percent. The nation's unemployment rate was 6.1 percent, and the rate for Wisconsin was 5.7 percent.

For additional labor market statistics contact our website at <http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/lmi>.



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print copies. If you wish to read the *Workforce Observation* you will be able to access it through the DWD Labor Market Information Website; <http://www.dwd.state.wi.us/lmi>. You can also have DWD notify you when the WO is updated by subscribing to our notification service available on the site.

September 2003	App/Osh/ Neenah	Fond du Lac	Green Lake	Waupaca	Waushara	Fox Valley WDA	Fox Valley Non MSA's	Wisconsin
Civilian Labor Force*	237,300	59,400	10,800	28,500	12,600	348,700	111,300	3,087,200
Employed	226,800	56,700	10,400	27,200	12,000	333,100	106,300	2,936,400
Unemployed	10,500	2,600	500	1,300	600	15,600	5,000	150,800
Unemployment rate(%)	4.4%	4.4%	4.5%	4.7%	5.1%	4.5%	4.5%	4.9%
Seasonally Adj. Rate (%)	5.1%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.7%
Total Nonfarm	205,900	49,700	8,000	22,300	6,400	292,200	86,300	2,788,100
Total Private	183,900	43,900	6,700	18,200	4,900	257,600	73,700	2,392,100
Goods Producing	65,600	14,000	1,900	5,900	1,000	88,400	22,800	641,800
Service Producing	140,300	35,700	6,100	16,400	5,300	203,800	63,500	2,146,300
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	13,600	3,100	600	1,000	400	18,600	5,000	127,700
Manufacturing	52,000	10,900	1,300	5,000	700	69,800	17,800	514,100
Trade	30,300	7,200	1,000	3,000	1,000	42,500	12,200	436,400
Transportation & Utilities	6,800	1,400	270	500	400	9,400	2,600	317,900
Financial Activities	11,100	1,900	390	800	200	14,400	3,300	158,700
Education and Health Services	21,100	6,600	1,100	2,700	800	32,400	11,300	366,500
Leisure & Hospitality	16,000	5,100	1,100	2,900	900	25,900	9,900	248,400
Info., Prof. & Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	33,000	7,700	900	2,300	600	44,500	11,500	959,800
Total Government	22,000	5,800	1,300	4,100	1,500	34,600	12,600	396,000
Federal	1,000	600	60	100	100	1,900	900	28,500
State	4,300	3,940	10	900	400	6,200	1,900	99,600
Local	16,700	4,800	1,200	3,100	1,000	26,900	10,200	267,900
Change from one month ago August 2003								
Civilian Labor Force*	-4,600	-800	-200	-300	-100	-5,900	-1,400	-44,700
Employed	-3,400	-400	0	-200	0	-3,900	-600	-25,300
Unemployed	-1,200	-500	-100	-200	-100	-2,000	-900	-19,400
Unemployment rate(%)	-0.4%	-0.7%	-0.9%	-0.4%	-0.6%	-0.5%	-0.7%	-0.5%
Seasonally Adj. Rate (%)	-0.4%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	-0.2%
Total Nonfarm	-2,500	100	-150	0	100	-2,500	0	-10,400
Total Private	-2,300	-100	-250	-300	-100	-3,100	-800	-29,000
Goods Producing	-1,100	-300	-40	-100	0	-1,500	-400	-10,300
Service Producing	-1,400	300	-110	100	100	-1,000	400	-100
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	-300	-100	-20	0	0	-400	-100	-3,400
Manufacturing	-800	-200	-20	-100	0	-1,100	-300	-6,900
Trade	0	-100	-40	-30	0	-100	-100	-5,600
Transportation & Utilities	100	0	0	10	0	200	100	-5,100
Financial Activities	-100	0	0	-10	0	-100	0	-500
Education and Health Services	0	300	-10	-10	0	300	300	2,900
Leisure & Hospitality	-700	-200	-160	-140	0	-1,200	-500	-13,400
Info., Prof. & Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	-500	0	-20	-30	0	-600	-100	-1,200
Total Government	-200	200	100	300	100	500	700	18,600
Federal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-100
State	-200	0	0	10	0	-200	0	6,700
Local	0	200	100	290	100	700	700	12,000
Change from one year ago September 2002								
Civilian Labor Force*	5,400	2,300	300	1,000	1,000	10,200	4,600	79,000
Employed	5,300	1,900	400	900	900	9,500	4,100	66,600
Unemployed	100	300	0	100	100	700	500	12,400
Unemployment rate(%)	-0.1%	0.4%	0.1%	0.4%	0.5%	0.1%	0.3%	0.3%
Seasonally Adj. Rate (%)	-0.1%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.2%
Total Nonfarm	-400	600	100	300	400	1,000	1,400	-5,500
Total Private	300	800	0	100	300	1,500	1,200	2,000
Goods Producing	0	-400	-100	-200	0	-700	-600	-24,800
Service Producing	-300	1,000	200	400	300	1,700	2,000	19,300
Constr., Mining & Nat.Rsrcs	100	100	0	0	0	200	100	-7,900
Manufacturing	-100	-400	-100	-100	0	-800	-700	-16,800
Trade	0	0	0	-100	0	-100	-100	6,600
Transportation & Utilities	-100	-100	0	0	100	-100	0	3,200
Financial Activities	0	100	0	100	0	200	200	5,100
Education and Health Services	0	100	0	100	100	300	300	8,200
Leisure & Hospitality	0	400	200	400	100	1,000	1,000	1,900
Info., Prof. & Bus. Svcs, Other Svcs	500	600	-100	-200	0	800	400	19,000
Total Government	-600	-100	100	100	100	-500	200	-7,500
Federal	0	0	0	0	0	-100	0	-800
State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,000
Local	-600	-100	100	100	100	-400	200	-7,700

* Includes participants residing in area. ** Includes employment with employers located in area. Estimates are N.O.T. seasonally adjusted. Current month estimates are preliminary. Totals may not add due to rounding. Calculations based on unrounded numbers. N.F.W.S. data is benchmarked to 3/2002.

Look for the most current Labor Market Information at: <http://www.DWD.STATE.WI.US/LMI>

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